



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/832,098	04/11/2001	Cathy Liu	LIUC3002/EM/6680	8675
7590	01/13/2006		EXAMINER	
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC 625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor Alexandria, VA 22314-1176			GIBBS, HEATHER D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2627	

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/832,098	LIU, CATHY
	Examiner Heather D. Gibbs	Art Unit 2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2005.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 29 August 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 08/29/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Upon further review, the Examiner has changed the 35 USC 102(b) rejection to 35 USC 103(a). Applicant is invited to provide the Office with a PTO-1449 and/or and affidavit to further strengthen the claimed invention. 37 CFR 1.56(a) states the "duty of candor and good faith" is owed "in dealing with the Office" and that all associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application have a "duty to disclose to the Office" material information. MPEP 2001.03. When applicant states that something is prior art, it is taken as being available as prior art against the claims. Admitted prior art can be used in obviousness rejections. *In re Nomiya*, 509 F.2d 566, 184 USPQ 607, 610 (CCPA 1975).
2. In response to applicant's argument that Weiloch is nonanalogous art, it has been held that a prior art reference must either be in the field of applicant's endeavor or, if not, then be reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the applicant was concerned, in order to be relied upon as a basis for rejection of the claimed invention. See *In re Oetiker*, 977 F.2d 1443, 24 USPQ2d 1443 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Weiloch is used to store a "calibration parameter to perform compensation and calibration for the captured image".
3. Upon further review, the Examiner find Spitz still remains relevant as cited below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1,8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art.

Applicant makes admission in the background section that the claims are already known. Regarding claim 1, which is representative of claim 8, Applicant admits an image scanning method for a scanner which has a preset constant calibration parameter located therein, comprising the steps of: a) providing a scanning object 131; b) using an image capturing element to perform image capturing on the scanning object 133; c) using the preset calibration parameter to perform compensation and calibration for the captured image 132; and d) completing image scanning for the object and repeating the step a 135 (Figs 1A and 1B).

6. Claims 2-5,9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art in view of Wieloch (US 5,764,023).

Regarding claim 2, which is representative of claim 9, Applicant discloses wherein the scanner comprises: a holding board 10 for holding the scanning object 11

thereon; an optical chassis 12 having an image capturing element 124 located therein for capturing the image of the scanning object 11.

Applicant does not disclose expressly a control module having a read only memory (ROM) for storing a preset calibration parameter and using the stored calibration parameter to perform compensation and calibration for the captured image.

Wieloch discloses a control module having a read only memory (ROM) for storing a preset calibration parameter and using the stored calibration parameter to perform compensation and calibration for the captured image (Col 7 Lines 52-66).

Admitted prior art & Wieloch are combinable because they are from applications, which require control options.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the admitted prior art with Wieloch.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide compensation and calibration for the captured image.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the admitted prior art with Wieloch to obtain the invention as specified in claims 2,9.

Regarding claim 3, which is representative of claim 10, the admitted prior art disclose the holding board is selectively made of glass or acrylic (holding a scanning object which linear lamp tube projects light on and transmit the image to the lens).

Regarding claim 4, which is representative of claim 11, it is inherent that the image-capturing element of the optical chassis be a charge-coupled device (CCD).

Considering claim 5, which is representative of claim 12, Applicant admits wherein the optical chassis further includes a linear light source, a plurality of reflection mirrors and a lens, the linear light source projecting on the scanning object to generate a reflecting image which is reflected by the reflecting mirrors and refracted through the lens to form an image on the image capturing element (Background Section).

Considering claim 6, which is representative of claim 13, Applicant admits wherein the scanner further includes a driving means for moving the optical chassis along the holding board for scanning the object (Background Section).

Regarding claim 7, which is representative of claim 14, Wieloch teaches wherein the control module is a selected system file (Col 8 Lines 5-25).

7. Claims 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art in view of Spitz (US 5,939,697).

Applicant's admitted prior art discloses c) using an image capturing element to perform image capturing on the scanning object; d) using the calibration parameter obtained at the step a) to perform compensation and calibration for the captured image; and e) completing image scanning for the object and repeating the step b).

Applicant's admitted prior art does not disclose expressly a) judging if a control module having a calibration parameter is required; b) providing a scanning object if the outcome of the step a) is positive; wherein the following steps are performed when the outcome of the step a) is negative: a1) performing pre-scanning and calculating calibration parameter; and a2) storing the calibration parameter in the control module.

Spitz discloses expressly a) judging if a control module having a calibration parameter is required; b) providing a scanning object if the outcome of the step a) is positive; wherein the following steps are performed when the outcome of the step a) is negative: a1) performing pre-scanning and calculating calibration parameter; and a2) storing the calibration parameter in the control module (Col 8 Lines 19-28).

Applicant's admitted prior art & Spitz are combinable because they are from methods of calibration.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the admitted prior with Spitz.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been as Spitz teaches the calibration parameter group may be retrieved as need (i.e. when the scanning object is positive). When the parameter group is not needed the outcome would be considered negative and hence pre-scanning would be performed and the calibration parameter would be stored in the computing and evaluation system 31.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Spitz with the admitted prior to obtain the invention as specified in claims 15-16.

8. Claim 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over admitted prior art and Spitz '697 in view of Wieloch '023.

Applicant's admitted prior art discloses: a holding board 10 for holding the scanning object 11 thereon; an optical chassis 12 having an image capturing element 124 located therein for capturing the image of the scanning object 11.

Applicant does not disclose expressly a control module having a read only memory (ROM) for storing a preset calibration parameter and using the stored calibration parameter to perform compensation and calibration for the captured image.

Wieloch discloses a control module having a read only memory (ROM) for storing a preset calibration parameter and using the stored calibration parameter to perform compensation and calibration for the captured image (Col 7 Lines 52-66).

Applicant's admitted prior art, Spitz & Wieloch are combinable because they are from calibration systems.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the admitted prior art, Spitz, and Wieloch.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide compensation and calibrations for the described system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine the admitted prior art and Spitz with Wieloch to obtain the invention as specified in claim 17.

Considering claim 18, the admitted prior art disclose the holding board is selectively made of glass or acrylic (holding a scanning object which linear lamp tube projects light on and transmit the image to the lens) [Background Section].

Regarding claim 19, it would be inherent that the image-capturing element of the optical chassis be a charge-coupled device (CCD).

Regarding claim 20, the admitted prior art disclose wherein the optical chassis further includes a linear light source, a plurality of reflection mirrors and a lens, the linear light source projecting on the scanning object to generate a reflecting image

which is reflected by the reflecting mirrors and refracted through the lens to form an image on the image capturing element (Background Section).

Considering claim 21, admitted prior art disclose wherein the scanner further includes a driving means for moving the optical chassis along the holding board for scanning the object (Background Section).

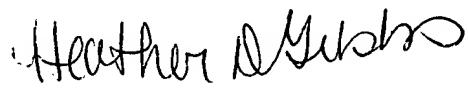
Regarding claim 22, Wieloch teaches wherein the control module is a selected system file (Col 8 Lines 5-25).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather D. Gibbs whose telephone number is 571-272-7404. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thu 8AM-7PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Heather D Gibbs
Examiner
Art Unit 2627

hdg


EDWARD COLES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY